

Parmelee Farm Committee
Minutes of Meeting
Parmelee Farm
February 3, 2022

Present: Lise Brule, Christine Cronin, Terry Doyle, Linda Dudek, Tim Gannon, Scott Hawkins, Peg Scofield and Guy Vecchitto

Absent: David Hyman

Guest: Ken Wodatch

Tim called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed the guest. He also welcomed Lise Brule as the new PFC member. The minutes from the meeting of January 6, 2022 were accepted as presented.

Peg reviewed the calendar for the coming year...there are 4 wedding scheduled. Stacy and Steve are not available for 2 of the weddings. The Committee will consider posting another Facebook request to try to find coverage for these 2 events and others. There was lengthy discussion. Peg moved to not book any more events for the coming year until PFC can get coverage for these events, seconded by Guy Vecchitto. Unanimously passed.

Ken Wodatch then reported on the KHS barn project. The KHS is now working with Country Carpenters on the plans for the new barn. The placement of the barn will require either the removal of some maple trees and a section of old stone wall or the relocation of the old garage. KHS is looking into the pricing for the moving of the garage up to the Shared Harvest Garden. The town tree warden will be consulted to look at the health of the maple trees. There was lengthy discussion. KHS is working with Jim Lally on this project. If the garage is moved, the KHS would pay for the moving, but look to the PFC to pay for the slab at its new location. KHS will research the cost of a slab. Ken also reported that the Orleans concert tickets for March 27 are on sale.

Tim reported that the Kubota 4x4 utility vehicle has been delivered. Anyone who wants a lesson on it should contact Tim.

Tim reported that he had submitted a partial list of upcoming projects for the 10 year budget. This is the preliminary list that was compiled at a meeting several months ago. Peg said she wanted to add another item to that list, the removal of the old concrete pad, because it has become a hazard and an eyesore. Her suggestion is to level the area and seed half of the area and make a gravel area next to the restrooms. This would be a good area for picnic tables, small events, etc. She has spoken to Michael Milano Jr....he gave her an estimate of \$3,000 to take up the pad and level and seed and \$4200 if half of the area would be graveled. There was lengthy discussion of several of the other projects on the spring list. Peg will get some prices from Michael Milano Jr. for leveling and seeding by the rebuilt stonewall and the french drain by the butterfly garden. Tim will talk to Ethan Drain about some of these projects and check on his availability. Scott said that a project management calendar should be drawn up for all of the spring projects.

Nomination were made for officers. The elected slate is as follows - Scott Hawkins - chairman, Guy Vecchitto - vice chairman and Christine Cronin - secretary.

Tim got an estimate from Michael Milano Jr. for a volunteer parking area 30 x 100 by the stone barn. There was discussion. Terry suggested to make sure the project within the scope of typical work done for enhancements/improvements to the farm given the projects location. There was further discussion. Terry Doyle moved to approve up to \$5,000 from the Activity Fund for the volunteer parking area, seconded by Guy Vecchitto. Unanimously passed.

There was discussion that perhaps a special meeting should be called to plan and coordinate all of the projects for the spring.

Tim said that he had an estimate of \$4500 from The Tree Company for removal of the dead trees over the Shared Harvest Garden. This will be submitted to the town because it is a safety issue for the property.

Tim noted that John Byrne had resigned from the Committee. He also mentioned that sugaring will start soon and they will be needing supplies.

Lise reported that the Shared Harvest Garden had received a \$3000 grant from the Middlesex Foundation. It will be used for new beehives, the upgrade of the pollinator garden and other garden expenses.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cronin
Secretary